



Community Preservation Act Committee

Date: February 28, 2022

Time: 6:01pm – 6:19pm

Location: Conducted remotely due to Covid-19.

Minutes

Remote Participation:

Susan Doctrow
Alexander Franzosa
Kin Lau
Leslie Mayer
Jo Anne Preston
JoAnn Robinson
Clarissa Rowe
David Swanson

Also Attending Remotely:

Julie Wayman
Jim Feeney

Chair Clarissa Rowe welcomed members and guests at 6:01pm. Rowe explained that due to Covid-19 the meeting was conducted remotely and read through the Town's disclaimers about remote meetings.

1. Consideration of FY23 CPA Special Application from the Arlington Housing Authority for funding for the replacement of the electrical panels in the Houser Building

Ms. Rowe discussed the email from the Community Preservation Coalition concerning CPA legalities and the use of CPA funds on community housing applications for "Preservation" vs. "Rehabilitation".

All committee members agreed that while the project to replace the electrical panels in the Houser Building, an Arlington Housing Authority property, may be seen as outside the standard definition of preservation, in fact, preserving the building and protecting it from other future fires is a strong enough argument for preservation. Members agreed this is a difficult situation but one that has been proven to need emergency attention. Since preservation is the protection of physical buildings from harm it falls into the preservation category.

The committee and members of the public have a sense of urgency around this work. The possibility of another fire made the decision clear for many members. With the availability of funds, members felt the committee should fund this project to protect our existing housing units.

Members also that other communities have completed preservation work on Housing Authority properties in accordance with stated guidance from the Department of Housing and Community Development. The committee also wondered if other housing authority properties will need to do this work as well.

The committee will suggest the Arlington Housing Authority seek out other funds to also support this work, specifically from Department of Housing and Community Development or by contacting Senator Friedman, or Representative Garballey and Representative Rogers.

With the known hazard (fire) the committee decided unanimously to support the special application.

Ms. Mayer moved to approve the special application for replacing the electrical panels at the Houser Building. Mr. Franzosa seconded. The vote was unanimous:

Susan Doctrow, Yes.

Alexander Franzosa, Yes.

Kin Lau, Yes.

Leslie Mayer, Yes.

Jo Anne Preston, Yes.

JoAnn Robinson, Yes.

Clarissa Rowe, Yes.

David Swanson, Yes.

Ms. Mayer moved to adjourn at 6:19p, Sue Doctrow seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Susan Doctrow, Yes.

Alexander Franzosa, Yes.

Kin Lau, Yes.

Leslie Mayer, Yes.

Jo Anne Preston, Yes.

JoAnn Robinson, Yes.

Clarissa Rowe, Yes.

David Swanson, Yes.